

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-02-2 (TF-02-115) (TF-02-116)
--	---

**ORDER DOCKETING TARIFF, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, AND
SCHEDULING CONSUMER COMMENT HEARINGS**

(Issued April 3, 2002)

On March 15, 2002, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) proposed tariffs, identified as Docket Nos. TF-02-115 and TF-02-116. In TF-02-115, MidAmerican is proposing a temporary increase that would produce additional revenue of approximately \$20.4 million. In TF-02-116, MidAmerican is proposing a permanent annual revenue increase of approximately \$26.6 million, or an overall annual revenue increase of 4.3 percent. This represents an average increase of 8.4 percent for residential customers on MidAmerican's East System and an average increase of 4.6 percent on MidAmerican's West System. To allow the Board time to fully consider the proposed increase, the proposed tariffs will be docketed as a formal proceeding identified as Docket No. RPU-02-2.

Pursuant to 199 IAC 7.7(16), the Board is scheduling consumer comment hearings in Des Moines, Davenport, and Cedar Rapids to provide an opportunity for MidAmerican customers to express their views regarding the pending rate case, as well as the general quality of service provided by MidAmerican. However, persons

with specific service complaints must follow the complaint procedure prescribed in 199 IAC 6.2. Specific service complaints cannot be addressed at the consumer comment hearings.

In its application, MidAmerican requests the Board allow electronic filings in a different format than prescribed by 199 IAC 7.2(12). MidAmerican states that the filings in this docket include electronic formats that are IBM compatible, but because of their volume they are provided on compressed discs rather than 5.25-inch or 3.5-inch discs. The electronic filings are primarily spreadsheets and are primarily in Excel format, and not Lotus 1-2-3 as required. MidAmerican requests Board approval to use these alternate formats.

The Board has considered MidAmerican's request and finds that it is reasonable. The formats used by MidAmerican are widespread and readily accessible. The Board will grant MidAmerican's request.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. An investigation is instituted to determine the reasonableness of MidAmerican Energy Company's proposed tariffs, identified as Docket No. TF-02-115 and TF-02-116. This matter will be identified as Docket No. RPU-02-2, a formal contested case proceeding. The expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation shall be assessed to MidAmerican Energy Company in accordance with Iowa Code § 476.10.
2. Proposed tariff filings TF-02-115 and TF-02-116 are suspended.

3. Consumer comment hearings will be held at the following locations for the purpose of receiving comments from the general public.

a. Thursday May 2, 2002, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Wallace Auditorium, Wallace Building 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

b. Monday May 6, 2002, at 7 p.m. at the West High School cafeteria, 3505 West Locust Street, Davenport, Iowa.

c. Tuesday May 7, 2002, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in Room 316 Iowa Hall, Kirkwood Community College, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 281-5256 in advance of the scheduled date to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

4. The following procedural schedule is established:

a. Applications to intervene shall be filed within 20 days of the date of this order.

b. The parties shall notify the Utilities Board prior to June 21, 2002, if they desire a prehearing conference.

c. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) and any intervenors shall file prepared direct testimony, with the underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before June 24, 2002. If a party references a data request in its prepared testimony, the data request shall be filed as an exhibit.

d. If Consumer Advocate and any intervenors find it necessary to file testimony in rebuttal to each other's direct testimony, they may file rebuttal testimony on or before July 8, 2002.

e. MidAmerican Energy Company shall file its rebuttal testimony, with underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before July 22, 2002.

f. Consumer Advocate and any intervenor shall file rebuttal testimony on any issue raised initially in that party's direct testimony and responded to by another party on or before August 8, 2002.

g. The parties shall file a joint statement of the issues on or before August 25, 2002.

h. All parties, which choose to file a prehearing brief, may do so on or before September 6, 2002.

i. A hearing shall be held beginning at 10 a.m. on September 16, 2002, for the purpose of receiving testimony and the cross-examination of all testimony. The hearing shall be held in the Iowa Utilities Board Hearing Room, 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa. The parties shall appear one-half hour prior to the time of the hearing for the purpose of marking exhibits. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 281-5256 in advance of the scheduled date to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

j. The parties may file simultaneous initial briefs on or before October 16, 2002.

k. All parties who filed initial briefs may file reply briefs on or before November 4, 2002.

5. In the absence of objection, all underlying workpapers shall become a part of the evidentiary record of these proceedings at the time the related testimony and exhibits are entered into the record.

6. In the absence of objection, all data requests and responses referred to in oral testimony or on cross-examination which have not been previously filed shall become a part of the evidentiary record of these proceedings. The party making reference to the data request shall file an original and six copies of the data request and response with the Board at the earliest possible time.

7. The request of MidAmerican Energy Company to file electronic filings in a different format than required in 199 IAC 7.2(12) is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 3rd day of April, 2002.